

BEACON FREE PRESS

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Retired Beacon police officer charged with 2nd-degree murder

By Kristine Coulter

A retired City of Beacon Police officer was taken into custody and charged with the second-degree murder of his roommate. According to New York State Police, a 911 call by the retired officer, Edison Irizarry, was placed and law enforcement responded to a residence on Rombout Ave. on July 21.

According to state police, as a result of the investigation, Irizarry, 52, was charged with

- Murder in the Second Degree (Class A -1 Felony)
- Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the Second Degree (Class C felony)
- Criminal Possession of a Firearm (Class E Felony)

State police identified the deceased as Casey Cuddy, 58, of Beacon, who was found “inside the residence from an apparent gunshot wound.”

According to court information, Irizarry pled not guilty to all the charges.

Irizarry was arraigned in the City of Beacon Court and remanded to Dutchess County Jail, according to state police.

“Mr. Cuddy was also known as Wilbur. We will not be releasing any details related to prior arrest history,” stated Trooper Krystal P. Paolicelli, Public Information Officer for Troop K, stated in an email to Beacon Free Press.

“All individuals are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law,” Susan Mraz Mungavin, Esq., Sr. Assistant Public Defender with the Dutchess County Public Defender’s Office, stated in an email to Beacon Free Press. Mungavin represents Irizarry and stated she does not comment on her past or present cases.

The City of Beacon Police Department issued a press release on July 22. In the release, it stated: “On July 21, 2025 the City of Beacon Police Department received a call from an individual reporting that he had shot his roommate on Rombout Ave. Upon arrival it was determined that one of the individuals involved was a retired Beacon Police Officer.”

Noted in the release was “[that] individual was immediately detained and, in order to maintain the highest integrity, the entire investigation was turned over to the New York State Police.”

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Ambitious restoration project underway at Howland Center

By Kristine Coulter

The “jewel” of Beacon is getting a renovation. Work continues on Howland Cultural Center, 477 Main St., as part of the Portico Restoration Project.

“Over the years, time, weather, and natural material deterioration have taken their toll on this architectural landmark designed by Richard Morris Hunt in 1872. To protect this significant structure, we have embarked on an ambitious restoration project for the front portico,” explained Theresa Kraft, who is the president of the Howland Cultural Center.

“Construction is underway to repair and revitalize this historic asset, restoring it to its original beauty. A new cement foundation has been installed beneath the massive granite stones. The project’s scope will cover all aspects of the exterior woodwork components, including roof finials, exterior casings, sills, exposed rafter tails, and vertical wainscoting. Additionally, the work will involve fabricating and installing the original gable end timber and wood tracery pieces, along with restoring the entry portico and balcony balustrade,” she said.

According to Kraft, “This restoration endeavor has been significantly supported by community donations, as well as a substantial \$50,000 Community Facilities Grant from the City of Beacon, in addition to a \$10,000 grant from the Preservation League of New York State.”

Continued on page 2



Renovation work continues on the Howland Cultural Center, on Main St., in Beacon.

-Courtesy photo Howland Cultural Center

DCAS FARM FAMILY OF THE YEAR

They’re up to the challenge at Stormfield Swiss Farm

By Curtis Schmidt

“Farming is not a job, it’s a passion. The cows have to be milked and fed every day of the year. It can be very challenging.”

That’s straight from the inaugural winners of the Farm Family of the Year Award from the Dutchess County Agricultural Society (DCAS) – the

Deforest Lawrence Family of East Fishkill.

In his presentation of the award at the DCAS Summer Dinner last week, Dutchess County Fair CEO Andy Imperati commented, “To be chosen for this award, the farm family exemplifies farm values derived from generation to generation, hard work and a love for

farming. They must show dedication to agriculture in their daily lives, in the lives of their family members, their community and, of course, their love for the Dutchess County Fair.

“Jim, Jennifer, Jenna, Justin, Jason and John of Stormfield Swiss Farm, represent everything that a family farm is.”

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DCAS LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Lenny Miller: Cultivating and sharing a love of agriculture

By Curtis Schmidt

Lenny Miller loves to teach. But, even more important, he understands the value of listening and learning. Those skills all intertwine in his calm and caring approach.

His love of farming and farm animals, horses in particular, has led this process.

He notes that some of his happiest moments have come in “teaching kids and answering questions in a group.” He gets plenty of opportunities like that each year at the Dutchess County Fair and he’s been doing that for over 35 years as a member of the DC Agricultural Society (DCAS) and as a 4-H Club leader.

In recognition of his efforts over the years, the DCAS presented Lenny with its Lifetime Achievement Award at the Summer meeting held July 23 at the Thomas Odak Horticulture Building at the Fairgrounds.

In the award presentation, Fair CEO Andy Imperati made the following observations.

“Lenny began his involvement with the Fair in 1987. On the Sunday of the Fair, Lenny always made sure he was seated in the judges stand beside the big ring by 7 a.m. for the draft horse show. He quickly volunteered to help (event coordinator) Frank Castella with anything he needed just so he could be by the horses.

“His retirement from the state (as a Building Restoration Specialist) in 1996 gave him the opportunity to buy his first draft horses and he never looked back. In 1998 he worked with Castella, who had been asked to put together an exhibition tent of Percheron draft horses and in 1999 he began showing in the Sunday draft horse show.

“In 2000, (Fair manager) Tom Odak asked Lenny if he would help to set up and manage the “Salute to Agriculture” tent. This year marks the 25th year that Lenny has been in that tent - sourcing the animals, overseeing the volunteers and sharing his love of all animals with

young and old alike. In 2005, after six years of experimenting with what was included in the tent, Odak realized his dream of making the tent the ‘Miracle of Life Birthing Center.’

“Lenny’s love of horses has only been exceeded by his love of working with and teaching children, and very shortly after acquiring his own horses, he began to talk about forming a 4-H club, which he did in 2003. The “Gentle Giants” continued for nearly 20 years with dozens of girls and boys learning how to care for and show draft horses.

“If that wasn’t enough, Lenny was also instrumental in building all the displays for the AgriVenture Tent, creating self-stations, and constructing a mock greenhouse for the display on violets in the horticulture building. If something needed to be done, Lenny has always been willing to pitch in.”

Imperati added, “Lenny is a very valuable part of our family here at the Fairgrounds. His dedication to the fair & Ag Society and his community did not go unnoticed. Lenny is so deserving of being chosen to receive this acknowledgment.”

Lenny’s work ethic and love of farm animals can be traced to his childhood. He was one of 13 children. “I think I was number eight,” said Lenny.

The family moved from farm to farm in southern Columbia County and was always in high demand because hiring Lenny’s father came with the benefit of 13 additional farm workers.

“My dad always had a team of draft horses, even after tractors came upon the scene,” said Lenny. “One night after dinner I asked him ‘Why do we keep these horses? There’s so much work involved with them.’ He said, ‘Son, let me tell you something. Horses follow you back to the barn, tractors don’t.’ I didn’t really understand what he was trying to tell me till much later in life. Animals get to know you and you kinda become attached.”

And that special attachment between



Dutchess County Fair CEO and manager Andy Imperati presents a Lifetime Achievement Award to Lenny Miller at the Dutchess County Agricultural Society’s Summer Dinner on July 23.

-Photo by Curtis Schmidt

animals and farmers is a key part of what Lenny tries to teach.

“I inherited a love of farm animals. As a kid, I usually had to care for about 13 heifers every morning before I went off to school,” he said. “Now, I just want to share the knowledge I’ve gained over the years.”

His talks with groups of children “usually start with a question and I just take off from there,” said Lenny. He uses agriculture and care of farm animals as teaching tools.

“With the 4-H club, a lot of the teaching involved things like responsibility, trust

and a calm approach,” he said. With children at the fair, he tries to teach children where their food comes from on farms and the importance of caring for animals.

“Farm animals have a way of teaching us important life skills, such as responsibility, communication, problem-solving, and decision-making, and it all happens while you’re learning to take care of them,” said Lenny.

He added, “It’s all about hopefully making a difference in the lives of kids, the next generation. And working at the Fair gives me more opportunities to do just that.”

Advance tickets on sale now for 2025 Dutchess County Fair

Skip the line and head straight to the gate! Save time and money and start planning your trip to the 2025 Dutchess County Fair happening August 19 – 24, in Rhinebeck. Advance tickets can be purchased online now at dutchess-fair.com until midnight August 18.

Pre-sale tickets including Senior (65+) & Military with ID can be purchased ahead of time at the Fairground’s Administration Office on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays from 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. until August 8. Concert tickets must be purchased online.

Beginning August 11-18, walk up ticket sales & kiosks will be available at the Welcome Center from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Monday through Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

“Senior & Military Day historically is the Wednesday of the Fair. That will not change. This year, we are offering Seniors and Military the opportunity to purchase their tickets ahead of time. These tickets bought prior to the Fair, can be used any day that they choose to come to the Fair,” Vicki Imperati, Administrative Operations Manager stat-

ed. “We realize that not everyone is able to attend the Fair on Wednesday to take advantage of this discount, which is why we moved in this direction.”

The advanced pre-sale ticket prices are as follows:

Adults - \$16.50 (includes convenience fee); children 11yrs and under are free.

Ride All Day Wristband - \$30 (+ \$3 convenience fee). It is important to note that each wristband is valid for one day only during the duration of the fair and does not include admission. For ques-

tions regarding the rides, visit <https://dutchessfair.com/midway-rides/> or email Contact@powersmidways.com.

Note: Only buy tickets through the official fair website dutchessfair.com. Purchases from any other sources, such as brokers or secondary market websites, are purchased at your own risk and will not be valid. There are no refunds or exchanges, no exceptions. Please order carefully.

Visit dutchessfair.com for more information.

Ambitious restoration project underway at Howland Center

Continued from cover

What have people been saying about the work? “Another highlight at the Center! A true showstopper. Just ask the people passing by who stop to admire the impressive restoration of our historic portico. This portico serves as a distinguished and welcoming entrance to the

Howland Cultural Center, the hub of art, culture, and history since 1979,” remarked Kraft.

Earlier this month, during a “Member Appreciation Picnic,” Tioronda Garden Club President Gary Barrack presented Kraft, a check for \$500. The funds will go towards the ongoing Portico fundraiser, it was stated.

The work for this project has been approached “with exceptional care,” said Kraft, “enlisting the expertise of specialists, we are collaborating with the esteemed architect Jeff Wilkinson of JWA in Newburgh and Thomas Clemmens of Clemco Construction & Restoration, Inc., and their team of craftsmen, committed to the preserva-

tion of historic buildings throughout New York.”

Kraft said they are anticipating the work to be completed in the fall.

The Portico Coin Drive is ongoing, said Kraft, so any additional work and unforeseen expenses that may arise during this project. Visit bit.ly/HCC-PORTICO to donate.

61-year-old Goshen man dies after being struck by excavator

A fatal accident occurred on Route 52 (Fishkill Ave.) between Dallis Place and Conklin St. on Monday, July 28. Mayor Lee Kyriacou’s office sent out a notification that City officials “closed Fishkill Avenue between approximately Dallis Place and Conklin Street due to a workplace accident.”

Later that day, City of Beacon Police Chief Thomas Figlia sent out a press release, which stated: “Upon arrival, it was determined that Amalio Lombardi, 61, of Goshen had been struck by an exca-

vator and passed away at the scene.”

Figlia noted, “An investigation of the incident is ongoing. The work being done was part of an infrastructure improvement project for Beacon, and the City’s administration extends its deepest condolences to the family and friends of Mr. Lombardi.”

The mayor ordered that flags be lowered to half staff for the remainder of the week in honor and memory of Mr. Lombardi, according to Figlia.

The stretch of road was opened after 5 p.m. that day.

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DCAS FARM FAMILY OF THE YEAR

They’re up to the challenge at Stormfield Swiss Farm

Continued from cover

Here are some key facts on the Stormfield Swiss Farm.

- A 3rd generation farm and it’s been in the family for over 100 years.
- Active in FFA, Holstein Club and 4-H as a leader and serving on committees for 4-H through Cornell Cooperative Extension Dutchess County.
- They welcome farm tour groups of all ages from all areas of the state and host various events at their farm.
- Milk suppliers for Hudson Valley Fresh including providing the milk for the Dutchess County Dairy Promotion milkshake booth and take an active role with the company.
- Promote agriculture throughout the year by taking animals to various events throughout the Hudson Valley, including the Culinary Institute of America and NYC.
- Active participants in the Ag Society’s Ag Education program for Ag Presentation Days by taking calves to schools, talking to the children and fielding their “wild” questions.

Jennifer DeForest said the farm was started in 1927 by her great grandparents Ethel and Thomas Knapp. “Thomas lived to be 97 and when he passed, Marie and Glen Metzger purchased the farm from the family and made renovations,” she said. “Jim and I had been working on another farm and had built up our herd enough to start milking cows on our own and the Metzgers have allowed us to farm here since 2007. Both of our families have been farmers for many generations - Jim’s in the northern part of Dutchess County and mine in the southern part.”

Jennifer said the family has around 80 head of animals on the dairy farm from newborns to adult milking cows and all of the corn and hay consumed by the animals is grown on the farm, located off Hillside Lake Road.

“We work with a nutritionist from Lutz Feed in Oneonta,” she said. “He tests our feed and balances out the rations so that we are optimizing our costs and the production of the cows.” Stormfield Swiss Farm is connected with Agri-Mark, a cooperative that owns Cabot Cheese. Jennifer noted, “One of our greatest business investments and opportunities is being a farmer/owner of Hudson Valley Fresh. HVF was started so that small farms could survive by getting paid what we need to for the quality milk we produce. If we had not had this opportunity to join HVF, I truly believe we would not be milking cows right now.”

She said the day-to-day chores on the farm are handled by “all of us together. During the summer, the kids help all the time and the rest of the year they help after school. Jim does all of the field work like planting crops and harvesting them. He also feeds the cows and does all other tractor work.

“I milk the cows twice a day and help with barn chores and do the bookwork. The kids help with calf barn chores like cleaning calf pens and feeding the calves and heifers and now that they are getting older, they also help with doing field work.” When it comes to raising children, Jennifer says she firmly believes that a farm is the best place of all. “They learn so many life lessons at a young age and that helps them to develop into genuine,



Members of the Stormfield Swiss Farm are pictured with their Farm Family of the Year banner. From left are Jim, Justin, Jason and Jenna Lawrence, Jennifer DeForest and her father John DeForest.

-Photo by Curtis Schmidt

Dutchess County Agricultural Society announces 2025 scholarship winners



Four of the scholarship winners who were honored by the Dutchess County Agricultural Society are pictured above. From left are Claudia Cooley, Chairperson of the Scholarship Committee, Jackson Crisp, Jamison Fountain, Lauryn Menz and Ashley Keck. Not pictured are Mackenzie Phillips, Leah Gottschalk, Gretah Kilmer and Christopher Winters.

-Photo by Curtis Schmidt

Dutchess County Fair President/CEO Andy Imperati announced last week that eight youths have been awarded scholarships by the Dutchess County Agricultural Society Scholarship committee. These students are seeking higher education at an accredited two or four-year college or university in the Fall of 2025. The recipients were recognized on Wednesday, July 23 during the annual Agricultural Society’s dinner meeting.

“The \$10,000 scholarship award was presented to Jackson Crisp. Several other awards were given to students who work hard and have a vested interest in the Fair. We continue to support our youth who choose to pursue a career in agriculture, or a career related to agriculture or horticulture,” said Imperati. He continued, “In addition to the scholarships already in place, for the second year, a \$1000 scholarship was given to a Rhinebeck High School student who shows Good Citizenship not only in their personal life, but in their school and community.

Christopher Winters is the 2025 recipient of this award.”

Scholarship applicants were evaluated in a variety of areas including Dutchess County Fair participation, grade point average, community involvement and leadership roles. The scholarships are funded through the generosity of the Dutchess County Agricultural Society, Inc., a 501c(3) non-profit organization.

Jackson Crisp, Poughquag, was selected to receive the \$10,000 scholarship plus a one-time additional \$7,500 award.

The following students were selected to receive a one-time Achievement Award:

Jamison Fountain, Millbrook; Gretah Kilmer, Rhinebeck; Lauryn Menz, Red Hook; Ashley Keck, Poughkeepsie; Leah Gottschalk, Hopewell Junction and Mackenzie Phillips, Beacon

The 179th annual Dutchess County Fair will be held Aug. 19 - 24 in Rhinebeck. For more information about this year’s Fair, visit www.dutchessfair.com. Follow the Dutchess County Fair on Facebook and Twitter.

honest and responsible youth, she said. “They have many farm community organizations like FFA (Future Farmers of America), 4-H and Holstein clubs where they can share their love of agriculture and mingle with other youth with the same passions.”

She added, “Would we love to see our kids want to farm? Absolutely, but we also want them to chase their dreams, and if that leads them to a different career, then we will certainly

support their decisions and be proud of whatever they become.” The Farm Family of the Year award includes the following: a \$250 cash award, free camping for the week of the Fair, a \$100 gift certificate for Foster’s at the Fair, entry fees to participate in the Fair this year will be waived, food vouchers, plus Ride All Day Wristbands for the children. Additionally, a banner signifying their award will be hung in the barn during the week of the Fair.

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Beacon High School honor students announced

The Beacon High School administration announced the following students were on the honor roll for the 4th quarter of the 2024-25 school year.

9th Grade Principal’s Honor Roll
Owen Allee, Lily Berry, Breannah Brace, Gavin Bruno, Noa Buckland, Sarah Camara, Skylar Carr, Lia Cosentino, Claire Cumming, Evelyn DePalma, Maysie Doyle, Joseline Duran, Saoirse Fehilly, Christa George, Mckenna Griffin, Henry Gute, Alejandro Herrera, Drew Kelly, Maximilian Kong, Justin Mann, Louise Mauks, Desmond McGrath, Uswah Mohammed Murtada, Elise Moran, Zora Nicholls, Oscar Pages, James Reyes, Giana Rodriguez, Nathaniel Salvati, Evangeline Santise, Hazel Schein, Violet Schilling, Benjamin Seaman, Shane Signorelli, Gonzalo Soria Velecela, Caellum Tripaldi, Luna Yawman, Owen Youatt

9th Grade High Honor Roll
Kaylyn Adusei, Abigail Atkins, Kiersten Barber, Madison Beltran, Wyatt Burgos, Hawah Camara, Anthony Castano, Zahara Cone, Eleanor Culler, Zooey Dedring, Andrea Delgado, Jake DeLuise, Ryan DiNobile, Maeve Haley, Jonah Hanby, Troi Harvey Semple, Heidi Maeng, Bethlee Manzano Cabello, Josue Martell, Ruby Martin, Victoria Maruggi, Shayne Maxaner, Oliver Meyer, Gabriel Montleon, Claire Morgan, Ismael Munoz, Catherine Musorofiti, Charlotte Netboy, Emily Nivicela Jarama, Payton O’Connell, Sofia Posso Salcedo, Caleb Ramirez, Austin Ricketts, Maeve Rinaldi, Khloe Roci, Mack Roland, Isabella Ruffy, Hunter Smith, Eliza Verdichizzi, Derek Waltke, Jude Williams, Trey Zapencki, Josefina Zezza

9th Grade Honor Roll
Kendall Adnams, Kiann Allen, Jesse Apostolou, Piper Clark, Amari Clarke, Ramon Dewey-Brink, Kaileigh Edie, Kyle Fairbanks, SaRiah Faust, Tania Griffin, Zoe Hammond, Jayden Harrison, Jose Hernandez Canelo, Brianna Hunt, Leon Kaliquani, Mia Lentini, Stephen Miller, Jessica Morocho Llivipuma, Glory Morris,

Thyler Patino Albarracin, Luis Ramon, Stephanie Ramon, Thalia Rodriguez, Vardan Singh, Jaliyah Soto, Anthony Talbot, Olivia Viola, Caleb Wells-McGurk, Hayden Wilson

10th Grade Principal’s Honor Roll
Maayan Alon, Atlas Baltz, Jerry Chen, Terry Chen, Theodore Concepcion, Zamaya Cone, Caroline Diaz, Elijah Epps, Fionn Fehilly, Lily Figlia, Khloe Franklin, Emilio Guerra, Elma-Taherin Hassan, Miguel Herrera, Shaun Jabar, Ruby King, Wenang Kobarsih, Katelyn Kong, Mary Lopez, Molly Lyons, Lily Mack, Ash Marcus, Ethan Maxaner, Victoria McKay, Isaac McKible, Lily Murr, Levi Partlow, Julian Rivers, Charlotte Rossi, Finn Simons, Elias Smith, Declan Sprague, Elliott Thorne, Isaac Tschang, Jesse Vermeulen, Julie Whittemore

10th Grade High Honor Roll
Mikayla Acevedo, Molly-Rose Archer, Emma Bellis, Charlotte Bowen, Savannah Brace, Aniyah Brown, Myasia Burch, Shannon Colandrea, Emily Coldrick, Misleidy Cruz Cruz, Mateo Cruz, Travis Dickston, Naim Dika, Ka’Dera Elliott, Khordae Facey, Adriana Fazioli, Hailey Fish, William Flynn, Hudson Fontaine, Kayla Gerardes, Ayham Ghazzawi, Maliah Graham, Julian Hannah, Ryan Huynh, Penelope Lipari, Yadriana Manzano Cabello, Kaycee Matos, Shyanne McNair, Ryan Mowen, Joseph Pallone, Lillian Ray, Stella Reinke, Olivia Reynolds, John Rose, Tabitha Smith-White, Januario Stageman, Harper Strang, Gavin Troiano, Nolan Varricchio, Rudolph Vergolina, Fabiola Vogrincic, Aslynn Way, Lila Welsh, Parker White

10th Grade Honor Roll
Savannah Acuti, Cecilia Allee, Tamimesh Bernstein, Giovanna Bottiglieri, Giovanni Bowley, Casey Brandstrom, Juniper Breault, Hartley Brickman, Michael Cahill, Jesus Cruz Llivipuma, Angeleah Decker, Magdalena del Puerto-Vitti, Victoria Diaz, Daniel Espejo, Abigail Haydt, August Hayes, Elidonya Hudson, Syeira Kozlik, Ava Lassiter, Gianna Mercer, Brianne Papo, Madelyn Pellerin, Brady Philipbar, Sarah Ramkalawon, Samuel

Riquelme Jr., Sebastian Roquel, Katherine Sendelbach, Za’layni Shand, Stella Sheehy, Caeleb Smith, Romonsito Soto Jr., Kiarra Tice, Farrah VanCott, Connor Varicchio, Andrew Whittemore, Ny’el Woods

11th Grade Principal’s Honor Roll
Nadeen Ahmed, Alianna Alijaj, Farhana Antora, Alexander Browning, Skylar Clair, Christian Clay, Peter Cohen, Tye Elias, Jonah Espinosa, Marisah George, Gabriel Godbee, Samiha Golden, Kayla Hammond, Zenia Haris, Dylan Hetrick, Alina Joseph, Oren Kelleher, Gabrielle Khalil, Savana Kush, Alma Mart, Aril McKee, Oscar McKible, Mira Miller, Annabelle Notarthomas, Liliana Rybak, Kayla Selander, Anna Sevastianova, Jonathan Trentacosta

11th Grade High Honor Roll
Madison Abrahamson, Macy Alencastro, Ashland Assael, Emanuele Bagala, Mira Bagriyanik, Logan Blum, James Bouchard III, Serenity Bunn, Ayden Hooten, Ruby Hotchkiss, Everly Jordan, Cameron Just, Taylor Kelliher, Griffin Kitrow, Carlos Lampon III, Aron Li, Brayden Manning, Aiden Montleon, Adrien Okoye, Caleb Pfetzing, Julian Sala, Julius Sala, Annabelle Scher, Zachary Schetter, Thomas Senior, Gannon Statini-Perez, Rihanna Taylor

11th Grade Honor Roll
Jahcier Ballard, Ella Brill, Lola Ciccone, Teo Fairbanks, Isabella Galbo, Javier Gutierrez Jr., Jeremiah Hardwell Jr., Essence Ifill, Milo Isabell, Vincent Joao Jr., Jaden Jones, Maceo Koerner, Eric Kruze, Prince Langford-Jones, Isabella Lee, Josiah Lind, Nora Marshall, Julia McGuir-Soellner, Silena Negron, Khiana Nicholson, Nolan O’Malley, Michael Ramos, Savannah Ray, Michael Santiago Jr., Wilmer Sinchi Jimbo, Katrina Skorewicz, Anibal Soto III, Aiden Spiecker, Clive Stewart, Matthew Tumidaj, Ri’Kya White, Alexander Young

12th Grade Principal’s Honor Roll
Beckett Anderson, Anabelle Arginsky, Taryn Beardsley, Isabel Bunker, Christine Chen, Evelina Diebboll, Tayler Finley, Willa

Freedman, Arianna Gowie, Jeannae’Jean-Francois, Charlie Klein, Lani Lopez, Josephine Mallon, Jada Medley, Addison Miller, Genan Mohammed Murtada, Nathan Richardson, Bethany Rudolph, Jacob Signorelli, Jax Spodek, Serena Stampleman, Ava Zeoli, Francis Zezza

12th Grade High Honor Roll
Nicholas Albra, Kendall Alston, Kekoa Baysa, Daniel Bridges, Lila Burke, Justin Gerardes, Mackenzie Harman, Bailey Hernandez, Karma Jones, Rory LaDue, Rowan Lane, Paige McCredo, Allen McKay, Emma Merola, Madison Mianti, Darryl Montgomery Jr., Ronan Moran, Evelyn-Jane Moreno, Amelia Padilla, Albion Qelaj , Daveya Rodriguez, Breanna Rudolph, Katherine Ruffy, Gabriel Salcedo, Anastasia Santise, Samiratu Sayibu, Jenna Serino, Natalia Sulsona, Mika-Gisselle Tate, Amya Thompson, Sortia Tripaldi, Sharod Tuggle, Eric Yanqui, Charles Zellinger

12th Grade Honor Roll
Riley Adnams, Matthew Apostolou Jr., Jude Betancourt, Sally Betterbid, Ahmaria Bunn, Devin Byrne, Jaidyn Caccamo, Elizabeth Carbone, Avery Davis, Sofia Diaz, Lucas Foret, Messiah Gardner, Ja’mes Gorden, Fallon Groza, Derrick Heaton, Reilly Landisi, Ryann Meyer, Annalea Miller, Rory Mowen, Lindsay Pedersen, Brianna Perez-Sample, Josue Pintado, Codie Reinoehl, Shilo Reynolds, Christine Robinson, Santiago Romero, Kayli Shand, Makhi Smith, Emma Soltish, Michael VanBuren, Sierra VanDemark, Sevana West, Holly Whittemore, Malcom Wilson

Boces CTI High Honor Roll
Serenity Bunn, Jeremiah Hardwell, Darryl Montgomery Jr., Aiden Montleon, Savannah Ray, Codie Reinoehl, Nathan Richardson, Thomas Senior, Sevana West

Boces CTI Honor Roll
Ryann Meyer, Brianna Perez-Sample, Michael Ramos, Jalani Ricketts, Pedro Rivera III, Julius Sala, Rihanna Taylor, Matthew Tumidaj, Michael VanBuren.

Stanza Books to host Children’s Book Fest on Aug. 2

Stanza Books and the Howland Cultural Center, on Main St. in Beacon, will introduce its first inaugural Children’s Book Fest. The festival will host authors, activities, storytimes, prizes, and BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS. The festival will be held on Saturday, Aug. 2, from 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. at the Howland Cultural Center, 477 Main St.

Stanza is on a mission to help kids keep their love of reading alive. They’re put-

ting this mission into action through the ritual Saturday morning storytime, a monthly Stanza Campers program with the Howland.

Stanza will launch two new huge children’s books at the fest with the authors in attendance for readings and signings:

Dan Poblocki’s “My Brother’s Butt is Haunted,” from Penguin Workshop and horror author Paul Tremblay’s first book for middle grade readers, “Another,”

from Harper Collins. Stanza helped launch Paul Tremblay’s latest adult horror novel, “Horror Movie,” in June 2024. More authors are being added with books for all ages.

Stanza will announce the publication of its first children’s book at the festival. This will be one of several books Stanza

Publishing will release this year, along with two novellas, and an anthology of Beacon writers.

This festival is made possible through the generous support of the Howland Cultural Center, 477 Main St., Beacon.

For more information, visit <https://www.stanzabooks.com/bambini>.

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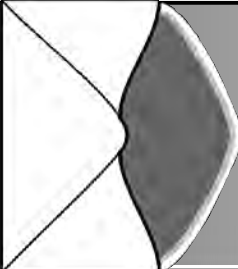
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DECODING DUTCHESS PAST



Dutchess County
Historical Society

www.DCHSNY.org/ddp

J. O. Whitehouse Guard of Po'keepsie' and it's goal of fostering unity among laborers



Image of the J.O. Whitehouse Boot and Shoe Factory on the corner of Main and Cherry Streets.

-Image courtesy of the Library of Congress

By Aidan Chisamore

As July comes to a close, we are reminded of the anniversary of a somber event in Poughkeepsie history. One hundred forty-six years ago, tragedy struck the once prominent J.O. Whitehouse's Boot and Shoe Factory.

On the evening of July 22, 1879, a bolt of lightning hit the factory building, almost immediately starting a fire. The conflagration burned into the night, quickly consuming the building. While most of the employees escaped, one of the company's engineers sadly lost his life.

This brief and somber account would quickly come to dominate the historical memory of the company, even today. This is not without reason. In terms of primary sources, even newsprint, very little survives about the day-to-day operations of the business. However, recent work to increase collections access at the Dutchess County Historical Society Archives and Special Collections has revealed a new piece of the story: the three-page Constitution of the "J. O. Whitehouse Guard of Po'keepsie" and a single page from the organization's minute book. This article will attempt to understand how this recent work might deepen our understanding of what was one of the largest employers in the city.

Specifically, these documents speak to the experience of the factory's employees and their relationship with the company. The J. O. Whitehouse Guard of Po'keepsie was an association of employees with a shared goal to foster unity amongst the laborers of the factory. As they state in the opening lines of the constitution, "by a united effort on the part of those wishing to promote the welfare of co-workers and thus establish a fraternal feeling, by social intercourse among its

members." Members of the organization elected representative officers, held frequent meetings, and paid regular dues.

To best understand the role of this organization, however, it is important to situate it within the context of the Boot and Shoe Factory. John Osborn Whitehouse (1817-1881) (fig. 1) founded the Poughkeepsie company in the early 1870s after selling his successful business in Brooklyn. The move to Dutchess County allowed Whitehouse to expand his operation to a larger, more productive facility.

Local architect J. I. Vail won the contract for the construction of the Poughkeepsie Factory in the winter of 1870 (fig. 2). As announcements in the Poughkeepsie Eagle-News during its construction anticipated, the building was set to tower over the intersection of Main and Cherry Streets. In the fall of the following year, 1871, operations formally began, and Whitehouse's industry found immediate success. At its height, the company employed around 500 people, both men and women. An exact date

for the founding of the J. O. Whitehouse Guard of Po'keepsie is impossible to ascertain, but the single surviving page of the minute book demonstrates that membership was active prior to the fall of 1872.

The most significant recorded focus on the company's workers centered around the calamitous factory fire. On the day following the disaster, citizens and officials from the Board of Trade meet at the Y.M.C.A. hall in Poughkeepsie to address the unexpected hardship. Contemporary reports note nearly every seat was filled, many of which by Whitehouse factory employees. At the meeting, city officials claimed that over 1000 people—workers and their families—were directly affected by the fire.

Beacon PBA posted to Facebook, "The PBA would like to congratulate Officer Edison Irizarry on his recent retirement from the Beacon Police Department. Officer Irizarry served the City of Beacon for 17 years, and prior to that served his country as a United States Marine."

It was noted in the post, Irizarry "held many roles during his time with the Beacon Police, including a Field Training Officer and Detective."

Retired Beacon police officer charged with 2nd-degree murder

Continued on page 5

According to the release, the City of Beacon Police Department "will continue to cooperate, fully and completely with the State Police Investigation." The release concludes, further details and all additional information should be made to state police because it is their investigation.

In 2021, when Irizarry retired, the



Image of John Osborn Whitehouse. Commemorative biographical record of Dutchess County, New York by J. H. Beers and Co.

They resolved to help remedy the situation, immediately organizing a committee to draft resolutions to "obtain relief for the Whitehouse employees." Despite their hopes, the committee was only able to help a handful of laborers who were able to find new work in the city. Many eventually left town to find employment elsewhere.

This was not the only assistance offered to the distraught workers. The morning after the fire, the company's founder J.O. Whitehouse, announced he would pay at least a week's salary to all of his employees to help as he could no longer offer them work—this equated to \$2 to \$10 a person. The committee to obtain relief for the workers looked towards this act as they called upon other Poughkeepsie manufacturers to assist by providing jobs. Contemporary accounts of this philanthropic endeavor certainly amplified the benevolence of the Poughkeepsie magnate. Despite this issue, articles in the Poughkeepsie Journal illustrate an immediate positive reaction by the employees. Many of these accounts expressly noted appreciation at the gesture especially given Whitehouse's substantial personal loss.

It is also in the wake of the fire that we find more evidence of the continued presence of a union of employees. An open letter, published in the Poughkeepsie Journal following the fire in 1879, the organization The letter, addressed to Whitehouse, thanked the business owner for "sympathizing with us in such a tangible manner as not only to express it by words, but to show it by his action in paying all of us a week's

wages." The letter was signed by the officers of the association. While this is only a small record of the activities of the organization, its publication is crucial. Not only does the distinct lack of sources concerning the labor history of J.O. Whitehouse's factory makes every piece of information important, but this particular letter demonstrates the consistency and importance of the organization's leadership within the company as it related to the workers' livelihoods.

After the fire, the remaining structure was pulled down, and reconstruction of the factory began only a couple months later. By the 1880s J.O. Whitehouse Boot and Shoe Factory was operational again. It neither reclaimed the same status it once had, nor is there any evidence of any labor association reforming after the building's reconstruction.

While there is still considerable work to be done to better understand labor relationships in the J.O. Whitehouse factory. The rediscovery of these documents sheds new light on an often forgotten part of Poughkeepsie's past. More broadly, the Constitution and bylaws also allow us to think about the history of labor in the city, and the influence of major businesses in the city's history.



Aidan Chisamore is archive manager at DCHS. He may be reached at aidan.chisamore@dchsn.org.

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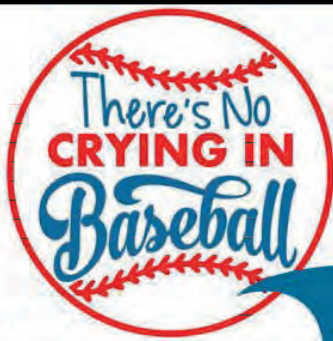


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But You CAN
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Power-hitting prowess propels Renegades' Romero

By Morgan E. Maier

The Renegades have hit the fewest home runs in the South Atlantic League this season. It took one resounding crack on July 11. Kiko Romero was faced with three pitches, and the Renegades saw who they had been missing. His pitch came along, then was long gone.

Romero rejoined the Renegades for the first time since April 18, blasting a solo home run to right field to cut the Asheville Tourists' lead in half. In last September's debut with AA-Somerset Patriots, Romero's massive three-run, 10th inning home run propelled the Patriots past Binghamton. The loss eliminated the Rumble Ponies from playoff contention. From high school to junior college and the NCAA's Pac-12 Conference, Romero has plenty of experience dashing postseason hopes.

Arizona native Romero is a versatile defender, a utility player, skilled in both the outfield and infield. Offensively, he is certified to make some postseason magic, and the Four Corners region fondly remembers him for it. Earlier this July, amid the high school sports lull, the Arizona Daily Star named him to its All-Quarter Century High School Baseball Team. Romero, a 2019 alum of Canyon del Oro High



In addition to his hitting power, Arizona native Kiko Romero is a versatile defender, a utility player, skilled in both the outfield and infield.

-Photo by Dave Janosz

School (CDO), received honorable mention for his achievements. Romero attended the University of Arizona, located an hour and change from

his native Chandler, AZ. In 2023, his final collegiate season, Romero secured honors from the American Baseball Coaches Association and an All-Conference nod

from the Pac-12. In six postseason games, he hit .333 with four home runs and nine RBI, including a walk-off single to clinch the Wildcats' semifinal appearance.

He was named a finalist for the Dick Howser Trophy, awarded to eventual first overall draft pick Paul Skenes. Considered the Heisman Trophy of collegiate baseball, the recognition is given to college baseball's player of the year.

Before reaching Wildcat esteem, Romero was a Division I junior college standout. Powered by Romero's offensive master-class in the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) World Series, Central Arizona College (CAC) captured the national championship title in 2022. A multi-year standout for CAC, Romero batted .467 through the postseason run, blasting 12 home runs. Six of them came on the national stage, in the championship series.

The Renegades missed Kiko in their race to the 2024 SAL title, but if his resume is any indicator, he'll make more postseason history when his time comes. The former 222nd pick notched his first play-off hit against the Erie SeaWolves. With the milestone came Somerset's elimination from their own league title.

League Standings

SOUTH ATLANTIC LEAGUE NORTH						
	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STRK
Greensboro PIT	22	8	.733	-	8-2	L1
Hudson Valley NYY	19	10	.655	2.5	6-4	W4
Jersey Shore PHI	14	15	.483	7.5	7-3	W1
Aberdeen BAL	13	16	.448	8.5	5-5	L1
Brooklyn NYM *	13	17	.433	9.0	2-8	W1
Wilmington WSH	13	17	.433	9.0	4-6	L1

SOUTH ATLANTIC LEAGUE SOUTH						
	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STRK
Bowling Green TB *	17	13	.567	-	6-4	L2
Hub City TEX	17	13	.567	-	5-5	L1
Greenville BOS	14	14	.500	2.0	5-5	W1
Asheville HOU	12	17	.414	4.5	4-6	W2
Winston-Salem CWS	11	17	.393	5.0	5-5	W1
Rome ATL	10	18	.357	6.0	3-7	L4



Home Schedule

August			
08/05/25	vs. Brooklyn	06:35 PM	Strikeout Cancer Night Baseball Bingo Presented By PeopleUSA
08/06/25	vs. Brooklyn	06:35 PM	Renegades Musical HOPE Week Presented By Westchester Medical Center Health Network (WMCHealth)
			Copa De La Diversión: Caribbean Night Presented By Cafe Con Leche HOPE Week Presented By Westchester Medical Center Health Network (WMCHealth)
08/07/25	vs. Brooklyn	06:35 PM	
08/08/25	vs. Brooklyn	07:05 PM	Make-A-Wish Night Presented By Mirabilio Energy Fireworks Friday
08/09/25	vs. Brooklyn	05:05 PM	Veterans Night HOPE Week Presented By Westchester Medical Center Health Network (WMCHealth)
08/10/25	vs. Brooklyn	02:05 PM	Halloween In August Kids Eat Free Presented By Hannaford Supermarkets
08/12/25	vs. Aberdeen	06:35 PM	Autism Acceptance Night Presented By Greystone Programs Baseball Bingo Presented By PeopleUSA
08/13/25	vs. Aberdeen	06:35 PM	Wine Wednesday Presented By Benmari Winery We Care Wednesday Presented By Westchester Medical Center Health Network
08/14/25	vs. Aberdeen	01:35 PM	Newburgh Gorhams Night Newburgh Gorhams Replica Jersey Giveaway Presented By Heritage Financial Credit Union
08/15/25	vs. Aberdeen	07:05 PM	Hudson Valley Big Apples Country Night
08/16/25	vs. Aberdeen	05:05 PM	Bhutan Night George Lombard Jr. Bobblehead Giveaway Presented By K104
08/17/25	vs. Aberdeen	02:05 PM	Internet Culture Day Sunday Family Funday





Renegades Extra!





IMPACT

PR & Communications

Community Foundations' Annual Garden Party To Celebrate Changemakers, Fuel Local Philanthropy





COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS OF THE HUDSON VALLEY



IMPACT

PR & Communications

Entertaining alternate identities are a great part of minor leagues

By Morgan E. Maier

A Renegade by any other name would swing as sweet. Like Clark Kent and Superman, the Hudson Valley players are hardly recognizable as Retrievers and Cider Donuts. As fans attending such games can be heard telling their kids, “I don’t think the Renegades are playing today, honey,” one may admit such a campaign causes confusion.

Revealed on July 26, the Renegades’ newest identity, the Big Apples, are merely at the core of entertaining High-A alternate jerseys. Warning: Not all are delightfully crunchy or edible...as proven by the Eugene Emeralds out in Oregon.

1. The Hudson Valley Big Apples - Just over 100 miles from NYC, the valley’s favorite farm team celebrated 237 years of New York’s statehood with a crisp rebrand. Thoughtfully designed in the color palette of the state flag, the Big Apples identity may be Hudson Valley’s best yet. With a chic, Manhattan-worthy vibe, the mascot, Empire, is hardly a country apple. With the Hudson Valley Big Apples in town, Excelsior meets excellence. It’s a bonus for those who like their fruits liquid: Hudson North Cider Co. launched it’s Big Apple Hard Cider for the occasion - made from New Paltz apples and best enjoyed at a ball game.



While the Renegades have alternate identities of Cider Donuts, Retrievers and Big Apples, other teams have (among others) Exploding Whales and Hippies.

-Courtesy photos



2. Asheville Tourists a.k.a. Hippies - This identity of the Renegades’ league rival Asheville Tourists is far out, man. With a peace sign in place of the “V” in AVE, Asheville proves that while there’s no crying in baseball, there’s absolutely tie-dyeing. Even Asheville mascot Mr. Moon donned groovy star-

shaped glasses and long hair for the occasion. As with all MiLB alternate and theme night jerseys, the team auctioned off game-worn Hippies jerseys to benefit a local organization. The proceeds went to Asheville Greenworks, a nonprofit community environmental conservation group.

3. Eugene Emeralds a.k.a Exploding Whales - Entwining baseball and local history is a beautiful, albeit messy partnership. A favorite of Minor League Baseball enthusiast and comedian Jon Oliver, is the Eugene Emeralds’ Exploding Whales identity.

In 1970, when the Pacific Ocean gifted Oregonian beachgoers with a dead whale, authorities had to think fast. The decision proved to be a bit hasty, as the solution was blowing the whale to smithereens with dynamite. Everyone in the beach town needed car washes for weeks. Since 2023, the San Francisco Giants affiliate pays homage to the bizarre event, complete with a whale outfitted with its own stick of TNT as the hat decal. Talk about a blowup on the mound!

4. Wisconsin Timber Rattlers’ Bratoberfest - What else could be expected of the team named for lumberjacks? They’ll be ringing in Bratoberfest during the last weekend of August. Likely the midwest’s favorite portmanteau, this one bratwurst and Oktoberfest is one wild, lederhosen-saturated weekend at the end of August. With “Brats” emblazoned across the printed vest, the players’ checkered green tops and brown pants getup is described as “infamous” by Wisconsin’s team page. Go figure.

RENEGADES ROUNDUP

Wins, trades, top performances highlight crazy week

By Morgan E. Maier

Retrievers, Apples, Romans, Oh my! In a week that featured two alternate identities and the first farm system shakeup of trade season, the Hudson Valley Renegades hosted the Rome Emperors.

As three pairs of former college teammates faced off against each other in the Valley, pitchers Josh Grosz and Griffin Herring were shipped to the Colorado Rockies in exchange for desperately needed infield defense. Third baseman Ryan McMahon debuted for the Yankees on July 26, and rumors fly over which outfield prospect will replace the currently injured Aaron Judge.

Cam Schlittler had another great start on July 22, matching up against three-time Cy Young winner Max Scherzer. Scherzer debuted in 2008 when Schlitter was in Little League, and took the loss in

their first head-to-head matchup. New York remains undefeated in Schlittler’s starts. Now, back to the Renegades.

Josh Moylan’s batting average continues its uptick, as the Renegades took five of six from the Emperors. Hudson Valley outscored its southern rivals 27-14 in the series.

First-year pitcher Gage Ziehl was impressive in his Renegades debut on July 26. Jackson Castillo and Kiko Romero each launched a two run shot, and Ben Hess — marvelous though not eligible for the win – struck out six in 4.2 innings.

Bryce Warrecker threw 100% strikes that night. Okay, fine. He threw a single pitch in the fifth. When Ben Hess reached his pitch limit on an 0-2 count, Warrecker came through with the one-pitch punchout. Ziehl went the rest of the distance. The 22-year-old righthander secured his

first High-A win with a three-hit performance. The defense was perfect, too. No errors were charged to either team.

What a relief - After Rome’s Jake Steels tied the game in the eighth inning on July 22, Hudson Valley took to the late innings for offensive heroism. Manuel Palencia bailed out the bullpen with a two-out RBI single to score Alex Vargas in the bottom of the eighth inning. Not a walkoff, but a gritty, will-not-give-up win to open the series. Cue the cowbells, 4-3 Renegades.

K’s for days - Kyle Carr continued his dominant streak, coming into the week with seven straight outings of one earned run or fewer. The Emperors could not figure out his slider. Or fastball. Carr threw a career-high 98 pitches in the opening game, and the all-time strikeouts leader added seven more to his total over 6.2 innings. James Cooper gave Carr the ball

in the series finale. He continued the streak. Carr allowed just one run, striking out four in 4.2 innings.

Early bird gets the loss - The Renegades had little more than 12 hours following the opening win before it was game time once more. The July 23 matinee saw a 12:05 first pitch, and the Renegades took their only loss of the series in front of thousands of summer campers and counselors. After July 30, Hudson Valley will be happy to have regular game times for the remainder of the season; they are currently 1-2 in games that start before one p.m.

Hudson Valley (57-36) will head to Wilmington, home of the Blue Rocks (43-52), on a four-game winning streak. The team has won 15 of its last 20 games, and is still in second place for the second-half SAL title, two and a half games behind Greensboro (67-28).

Applications for next round of Fly Car Grant Program open through Aug. 26

Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino is launching a second round of the County’s Fly Car Grant Program, providing up to \$100,000 to help local fire departments, rescue squads, and ambulance corps to purchase life-saving equipment for their fly car vehicles. This initiative is part of Serino’s ongoing efforts to help address the emergency medical services (EMS) crisis.

“When you’re having a medical emergency, every second counts – and our first responders need every tool possible to save lives,” said Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino. “Last year’s Fly Car Grant helped agencies get critical equipment out into our communities faster. By launching another round, we’re doubling down on our commitment to support our local EMS providers, improve response times, and strengthen this vital safety net for residents.”

This program is open to local fire departments, fire districts, and ambulance corps that serve Dutchess County. Agencies that received a Fly Car Grant last year are eligible to apply again, though preference will be given to those that did not receive funding in the first

round. Individual grant awards will range from \$5,000 to \$20,000 and will be provided on a reimbursement basis only. Funding can be used for equipment required under state regulations for emergency ambulance service vehicles other than an ambulance as well as items like AEDs or external chest compression systems that expand or enhance a fly car’s life-saving capabilities.

As with last year’s program, participating agencies will agree to install County-supplied standardized recruitment graphics on the rear of their fly cars, encouraging more residents to consider career and volunteer opportunities in EMS – an important step toward strengthening the local workforce of the future.

Applications must be submitted electronically through the Dutchess County Grant Portal by 3 p.m. on Aug. 26. Awards are expected to be announced in October. Applicants must ensure compliance with Dutchess County’s Procurement Policies and Procedures. Full instructions and guidance are available online.

For more information, please contact the Department of Emergency Response at 845-486-2080.

Dutchess County Real Estate Charity Golf Inc. to distribute \$27,000 in grants at October outing

The Dutchess County Real Estate Charity Golf Inc., a nonprofit comprised of local real estate professionals that donates 100% of its proceeds to charities in the Dutchess County area, has announced its 26th golf outing will take place at The Powelton Club in Newburgh on October 6.

The proceeds of the 25th annual outing – which totaled \$27,000 – were distributed to nonprofit recipients including Angels of Light, Astor Services, the Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse, the Dutchess County SPCA, Dutchess County Special Olympics, the Fishkill Food Pantry, Grace Smith House, Sparrow’s Nest, the Bardavon, The Children’s Home of Poughkeepsie and Vet 2 Vet Services.

“The Dutchess County Real Estate Charity Golf Inc.’s annual outing enables

both individuals and companies to give back to the community,” said Jessica Glass, partner at Stenger, Glass, Hagstrom, Lindars & Iuele LLP and board member of The Dutchess County Real Estate Charity Golf Inc. “Together we can help our community and support the many charities that make a tangible difference in Dutchess County.”

The 25th annual outing’s sponsors included Daniel O’Connell’s Sons, Patrick Moore Esq., R.L. Baxter Building Corp., Stenger, Glass, Hagstrom, Lindars & Iuele, LLP, TEG Federal Credit Union and Terra Ridge Farm. Companies interested in sponsoring this year’s tournament, or persons wishing to sign up as an individual or foursome are invited to contact Dutchess County Real Estate Charity Golf, Inc. at dutchessgc@gmail.com.

Jacobson secures \$250,000 for BVAC to purchase new ambulance, equipment



Assemblymember Jonathan Jacobson secured \$250,000 in funding for the Beacon Volunteer Ambulance Corps (BVAC) to purchase a new ambulance and related equipment. BVAC has served the local community since 1958. This new ambulance is a lot better than the burned-out 1948 Cadillac that was originally donated to the organization as their first ambulance, stated Jacobson on social media.

Jacobson thanked BVAC President Dr. Paul Ostrovsky and all of the staff and volunteers for their life-saving work.

-Courtesy photo

Community Foundations’ Annual Garden Party to celebrate changemakers, fuel local philanthropy

The Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley (CFHV) will host its annual Garden Party on Sunday, September 14 from 2 – 5 p.m. at the Highlands Country Club in Garrison.

This year, CFHV’s Garden Party will honor five exemplary individuals whose unwavering commitment to the region has made a lasting impact: Michael Fleischer and Michael Dupree, Garry and Diane Kvistad, and George C. Whipple III.

A cherished tradition since 1994, the party brings together friends and supporters for an afternoon of celebration and purpose. As CFHV’s signature fundraising event, it supports the organization’s mission of inspiring and celebrating philanthropy across Dutchess, Ulster and Putnam counties.

“The Garden Party showcases the values at the heart of our mission,” said Laura Washington, president and CEO of CFHV. “The event not only helps fuel our philanthropy for the year but also connects nonprofits and grantees with donors who can help make their goals a reality. Our honorees, Michael, Michael, Garry, Diane, and George, are unwavering supporters of Dutchess, Ulster, and Putnam counties, uplifting those in need, creating opportunities and inspiring others to lead with compassion and purpose. We are proud to spotlight and celebrate them this year.”

Since moving to Hyde Park in 1993, Michael Fleischer and Michael Dupree have been tireless advocates for Dutchess County’s historic preservation, economic development and civic engagement. Both Fleischer’s and Dupree’s commitments to public service is exemplified through their involvement on multiple Dutchess County boards, such as Dutchess Community College, the Walkway Over the Hudson

and many more throughout their tenure.

As longtime Ulster County residents and the founders of Woodstock Chimes, Garry and Diane Kvistad have blended entrepreneurial success with a deep and lasting philanthropic impact. Through the Kvistad Foundation and two charitable funds managed by CFHV, they have provided vital support to local arts organizations and nonprofits. Their giving continues to uplift Ulster County and beyond with a focus on sustainability, creativity and well-being.

A dedicated philanthropist and civic leader, George C. Whipple III has made significant contributions to historic preservation and environmental causes in Putnam County, where he resides. Known professionally as a prominent attorney and an Emmy-winning entertainment and lifestyle reporter with NY 1 News for his work on On Stage Presents Broadway’s Revival in 2022, Whipple brings a passion for history, the arts and public service to everything he does.

Proceeds from the Garden Party benefit CFHV’s Community Grants Program, which has distributed more than \$2 million to nonprofit organizations throughout the Hudson Valley since 2000. This year’s funding priorities in the Community Grants Program are guided by insights from CFHV’s recently released “Voices of the Hudson Valley,” a report identifying the most pressing issues in the region as shared in community conversations with residents, nonprofit leaders and civic partners. The Garden Party helps ensure that vital resources reach those working on the front lines of change.

For tickets, sponsorship opportunities or to learn more about the Garden Party, please visit communityfoundationshv.org/events/the-garden-party.

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Hope to hear from you! Thanks!

get growing!

by mark adams



Ozzy and lavender

Present ‘scents’ and past tense

What does Ozzy Osbourne have to do with lavender? Nothing! But more about that later.

First: Last week., Sue and I visited Farmstead 1868 in Cazenovia, N.Y. As president of New York State Flower Industries, Sue set up the annual meeting at the Farmstead’s two-acre lavender farm. 1868 refers to the farm’s founding as a producer of hops for Albany and New York City breweries. When a fungus and Prohibition wiped out the hops industry, the farm pivoted to dairy. The COVID pandemic upended the dairy industry for a few years, so owner Monica Cody decided to start a lavender farm.

Even though Monica is a bio engineer and worked (before marriage brought her to the dairy farm) as a product development manager at Bristol Myers Squibb, she knew next to nothing about growing lavender. She must be a fast learner, because during our tour of the fields and oil distillery, I learned more about lavender than even I wanted to know.

“English” lavender is native to dry, sunny southern France. The two acres devoted to lavender at Farmstead 1868 are home to five varieties, with varying degrees of success in upstate NY’s frigid winters and sometimes soggy summers. Lavender hates wet feet, and is sensitive to the soil-borne fungus phytophthora, the same scourge that wiped out Ireland’s potato crop in 1847. Monica says the variety “Phenomenal” is hardiest in her environment, although it is the latest to bloom, and I have found it to be a slow grower. “Munstead” is the first to bloom, with gorgeous blue panicles on upright stems, with a strong fragrance, making it the top choice for garden beds and borders.

Monica uses “Royal Velvet” and “Phenomenal” for making dried bouquets, which are for sale in the gift shop, along with cookbooks and distilled oils. “Grosso” and “Sensational” are best for oils, which are produced on site in a copper still. Lavender oil is used for aromatherapy or, when diluted, to improve skin health. It is also, according to Monica, a natural mosquito repellent, but I think her upstate mosquitoes must be



Monica Cody at her lavender farm.

-Photo by Mark Adams

wimpier than the ones we have in the Hudson Valley.

The lavender farm is in peak bloom during July, when it’s open for U-pick operations and tours. Make a plan to visit next year, maybe after a stop at the Fenimore Farm and Country Village in Cooperstown.

On July 23, 1985, my friend Craig Domonkus and I left a party around midnight, and, on a whim, decided to drive to the Live Aid concert in Philadelphia. That turned out to be the only time I saw Black Sabbath in concert. Ozzy Osbourne had reunited with his seminal band just for Live Aid, which was organized to raise money for famine relief in Ethiopia. Back in those days, people were allowed to bring coolers to concerts – in fact, Live Aid might be the reason that coolers aren’t allowed at rock



Mark at Live Aid.

-Photo by Craig Domonkus

concerts. It seems that every one of the 90,000 attendees dragged in a cooler full of booze. By the time Ozzy took the stage at 10 in the morning, the entire audience (except me and Craig) was passed out, drunk. Security guards turned fire hoses on the crowd to keep people from cooking in the blistering sunshine.

Ozzy himself was in top form, although his bandmates were a bit hung over. During his third and last song, “Paranoid,” you can

see on the YouTube video Ozzy trying his best to rouse the audience, raising his arms and shouting, “Come on!” In the photo on this page, that’s me and Craig down front with about a dozen other people who had just woken up.

Yep. Those were the days. R.I.P. Ozzy.

Mark Adams is an agricultural advisor to the Dutchess County Executive, Dutchess County B.O.C.E.S. and Cornell University.

La Guelaguetza set Aug. 3 at Waryas Park

The annual La Guelaguetza celebration returns to the heart of Poughkeepsie with music, dance, Oaxacan flavors and community spirit. This free, family-friendly event will take place on Sunday, Aug. 3, at Waryas Park, on the banks of the Hudson River in the city of Poughkeepsie. Rain or shine, La Guelaguetza will go on.

This year, more than 200 participants, including dancers, musicians and singers, will bring the festival to life. It is expected to welcome more than 8,000 people, according to Felipe Santos, director of the Grupo Folklórico de Poughkeepsie (GFP). The 18th edition in 2025 will feature familiar groups such as the Grupo Folklórico de Poughkeepsie and the Ballet Folklórico Guadalupano, along with new additions like the band Maquis Music, composed of young musicians traveling from Los Angeles.

“Guelaguetza is a form of resistance. Celebrating our roots is also a way of affirming who we are and what we contribute,” said Santos. For him, La Guelaguetza not only represents cultural heritage for Oaxacans but is also a direct contribution to the cultural enrichment of the entire Hudson Valley.

La Guelaguetza originates in the traditions of the Indigenous peoples of the state of Oaxaca, dedicated to the Goddess of Young Corn, Centeotl, goddess of

abundance. Guelaguetza is a word from the Zapotec language that means “to share” and it represents a way of life. The spirit of mutual gift-giving is at the heart of this festival, which showcases the culture and traditions of the eight regions of Oaxaca, Mexico, highlighting traditional dances, village music, flavors, and the majestic colors of Oaxacan attire.

Since thousands of attendees are expected, guests are encouraged to arrive early to find parking near the park, wear hats and light clothing, and bring water to stay hydrated. Attendees are also encouraged to bring folding chairs or blankets, and to support local businesses through the food and beverage vendors.

La Guelaguetza is, above all, a family event.

“We want it to be a space for dancing, joy, and celebration. Alcohol is not permitted,” emphasized Santos. The call is to respect the peaceful and cultural spirit of the festival.

For Ernestina Martínez, secretary of the Grupo Folklórico de Poughkeepsie and a La Guelaguetza dancer, the main goal of the event, for both herself and GFP, is culture: “The most important thing is preserving the culture for the children. That they know where they come from and that they can share the culture of the eight regions of Oaxaca.”

Martínez has attended La Guelaguetza of Poughkeepsie for over 10 years and, once

her children were older, she finally had the opportunity and time to join the Grupo Folklórico as a secretary and dancer.

As in previous years, the festival will include the sale of traditional Oaxacan

food, crafts, live music, children’s activities, and much more.

For more information, email pokguelaguetza@gmail.com or visit their Facebook page @pokguelaguetza.

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Obituaries

Lawrence Grella



In Loving Memory of Lawrence Grella
November 25, 1964 – July 21, 2025

It is with heavy hearts and deep love that we share the passing of Lawrence Grella, who departed this life on July 21, 2025, at the age of 60. He passed leaving behind a legacy of selflessness, love, and kindness.

Born on November 25, 1964, Larry was the beloved son of Diana Frank. He grew up in Beacon, NY, attending St. Joachim’s School and Beacon High School. Larry remained in Beacon, where he and his wife, Teresa, raised their two sons, Vincent and Andrew.

Nothing in this world brought Larry as much pride and joy as being a husband and a father. Larry was the epitome of a devoted family man placing his children at the center of his universe while still

spreading love to others in need. Larry prioritized the dreams of his boys and sacrificed anything to enable his sons’ pursuits. Aside from husband and father, there was no term more endearing to Larry’s ears than “Coach”. When Larry wasn’t encouraging take-downs from the corner of a wrestling mat for the Bulldogs, you could find him perched on his bike along the outfield fence at Memorial Park.

Family time was always filled with his favorite activities— hiking Mount Beacon, walking along the Hudson, bike rides, golf, chess, swimming, yard games, and countless hours of playing sports with his sons. As his sons grew from children into his closest friends, Larry embraced a new chapter, channeling his energy into a life rooted in health, mindfulness, and inner peace. A devoted yogi, he spent the last decade deepening his spiritual practice and finding joy in the quiet rhythm of breath and movement. Whether he was perfecting his swing on the back nine or cruising through Beacon on his bike, he was always in motion and always at peace.

Larry attributed his life successes to the love and support of his beautiful wife, Teresa. Throughout their 34 years of marriage, together they enjoyed the little things that life offers - family dinners, beach vacations, pool parties, morning coffee on the porch, games, and puzzles.

Larry retired from Metro-North Railroad in 2020, after 32 years, time which he reflected proudly on.

He is survived by his loving wife, Teresa Grella, his two sons and their wives, Vincent and Cori-Bianca, and Andrew and Margot. He is also survived by his mother, Diana Frank, his sisters Linda Goff (Edward), Phyllis Grella, Karen McGannon (Dennis), Melissa Murray, Amanda Frank, his mother-in-law Helen White, and in-laws Michael White (Ginny), Patrick White (Karen), Robert White, Sandra Torregrossa (Ed), Daniel White (Catherine), and many nieces, nephews, and cousins. He was predeceased by his stepfather, Lionel Frank Jr.

A celebration of Larry’s life was held on Monday, July 28 at the Southern Dutchess Golf Course in Beacon, NY, one of his favorite places. In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests donations be made to the Beacon High School Varsity Wrestling Team. Donations can be made by check to Beacon City School District, with a memo to the wrestling account.

Though our hearts are broken, we are comforted by the thought that death can’t take the best of us, and that Larry’s spirit lives on through us all – he will soar high above the hills serving as an eternal Beacon, always guiding us home.

“Thank You”

Carol Ann Burnette



Carol Ann Burnette, a resident of Fishkill, NY since 1997 and formerly of Yonkers, NY, passed away on Thursday, July 24, 2025 at MidHudson Regional Hospital in Poughkeepsie, NY surrounded by her loved ones. She was 71.

Carol’s heart was always open, and her arms were never far from a hug. She fiercely loved her family and made every sacrifice without hesitation, always putting others before herself. Whether it was a quiet moment of advice or a meal made with love, her presence made people feel safe and cherished.

Daughter of the late John C. and Doris M. (Heinz) Dmytryszyn, she was born in Yonkers on December 14, 1953. She attended St. Peter’s Grade School and in 1971 graduated from Sacred Heart High School. In

1977, she graduated with top honors from the Yonkers Public School of Nursing.

Her nursing career began at the Hebrew Home for the Aged in the Bronx, where she was employed from 1977 to 1997. She then accepted a position with the Elant Care Center in Wappingers Falls, NY, where she served for 15 years, retiring as Nurse Manager in 2012.

Carol was a parishioner of St. Mary, Mother of the Church in Fishkill.

On December 10, 2005, she married Coy H. Burnette, Jr. at the Reformed Church in Poughkeepsie. Coy survives at home in Fishkill.

Additional survivors include her daughter, Melissa A. Mercay & her husband Damon of Pleasant Valley, NY; her son, Keith M. Cerone & his wife Theresa of Hopewell Junction, NY; her son, Joseph W. Cerone of Fishkill, NY; her grandchildren: Brionna Mercay, Damon Mercay, Jr., Sierra Mercay, Aubrey Cerone, Braelynn Cerone, Chloe Cerone, Adrianna Cerone, and Joseph Cerone; her stepdaughter, Dawn Zambrana; her stepson, Robert Burnette; her stepdaughter, Joy Burnette; her step-grandchildren: Marisol Torres, Cabrina Burnette, Alana Burnette, Ariyanna Zambrana, Jonathan Burnette, Dyami Coy Massey, and Anthony Zambrana; seven great-grandchildren; her brother, John T. Dmytryszyn & his wife Theresa of Newburgh, NY; her goddaughters, Doris Marie Dmytryszyn-Anderson and Kirsten Mitchell; her life long friends Donna and Frank Andrade and many nieces, nephews, and countless other loving relatives & friends.

In addition to her parents, Carol was also predeceased by her grandparents, Margaret & Conrad Heinz and Mary & Joseph Dmytryszyn; as well as her godparents, Margaret Baker Mitchell & Benton Mitchell.

Calling hours will be held from 2 to 4pm and 6 to 8pm on Wednesday, July 30 at the McHoul Funeral Home of Fishkill, Inc., 1089 Main Street, Fishkill, NY. A Mass of Christian Burial will be offered at 10am on Thursday, July 31 at St. Mary, Mother of the Church, 106 Jackson Street, Fishkill, NY. Entombment will follow in the Community Mausoleum at Fishkill Rural Cemetery, 801 Route 9, Fishkill, NY.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105; www.stjude.org.

For online tributes, visit www.mchoulfuneralhome.com.

Thomas Patrick Fitzgerald Jr.



Thomas Patrick Fitzgerald Jr.
“Tommy”
June 23, 1944 - July 21, 2025

On July 21st, 2025, after being lovingly cared for at home, Thomas Patrick Fitzgerald Jr. was welcomed into the Loving Arms of Jesus...

Thomas P. Fitzgerald (Tommy) of Beacon, N.Y. was the son of the late Tom Sr. and Lois (Green) Fitzgerald.

He was born in Poughkeepsie, N.Y. on June 23rd, 1944.

As a young boy the family moved to Kingston, N.Y.

Tommy graduated from Kingston High School in 1962 and he attended both Orange County and Ulster County colleges.

He proudly served in The United States

Army during the Vietnam War era. Tommy loved this Country and later in life (along with his wife) he performed for many Veteran ceremonies and events.

Throughout his lifetime he had several jobs beginning with ceramic tile, and years later at The Home Depot. Although his work was a way of providing, MUSIC was where he could forget the trials of life and where he found true Joy.

You cannot think of Tommy without hearing his rhythmic drumbeats, his heartfelt melodies, and his distinctive, soulful singing voice. While still in high school he and his buddies formed the band, The Monzels....He was the band’s drummer (he played while standing up) and also their lead singer. They played for proms and parties and after graduation continued making music playing in local clubs, weddings and also going “on the road.” The Monzels made several recordings including their original, “Sharkskin,” featuring Tommy on drums.

After The Monzels, he continued playing in many area bands on both sides of the Hudson River. Through every chapter of his life music and performing were his place of peace.

In the late 1980s into the 1990s, Tommy found himself (as he described) needing to become “clear.” He found the strength to move forward and, in his words, “breathe free.”

In 1991 he met the love of his life, Joanne (Sorci.) They were married on September 28th, 1997. Inside their wedding rings he had inscribed E.I. T. (everything, in time.) Finally, both passions were combined...Music and his “Princess.”

Together they performed as a duo until his health struggles made it impossible.

No one’s life is perfect, and many of us regret poor choices made in the past, but Tommy was wise enough to summon the strength (with God’s grace) to begin again and start anew.

Tommy and Joanne shared One heart and always managed to grow even stronger, just by simply being together.

Tommy always said that they were God’s gift to one another and that he’d forever remain at her side...

Not even death can end their love story... His song has Not ended, for his melody lingers on!

“No more of this life’s struggles, no more burdens to bear.
Your spirit fills my heart and soul, I hear your sweet words within my ear . . .
You wake me up each morning, and you continue to walk each step with me,
you’re beside me throughout the night, I feel you (Always) near.
I Thank God for Eternal Life, and for The Gift of My Tommy’s Love -
Per Sempre Mio!”

Following Tommy’s wishes, there were no calling hours and his burial was private. Any donations in his memory may be made to either -

Castle Point Food Pantry
41 Castle Point Rd.
Wappingers Falls, N.Y. 12590

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ARF- Animal Rescue Foundation
54 Simmons Lane
Beacon, N.Y. 12508.

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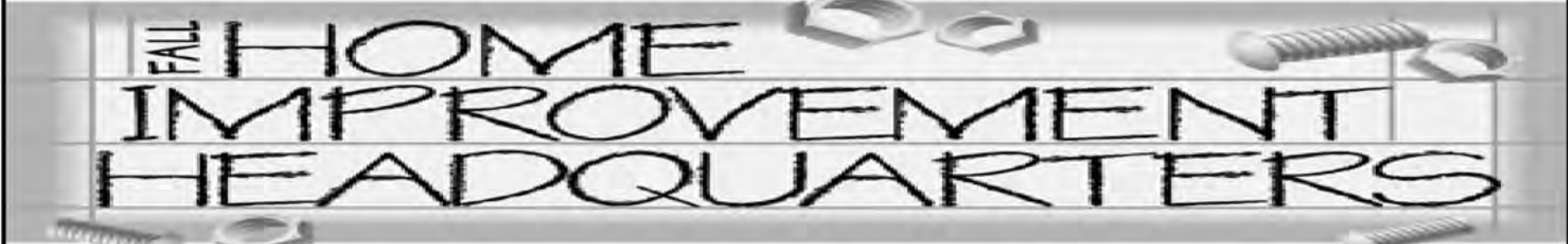
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HEADQUARTERS



Classified

SDN Subscriber ads

A black and white photograph of a man with dark hair, wearing a white apron over a dark shirt. He is standing behind a black table, possibly a workbench or a desk, and appears to be working on something on the table. The background is slightly blurred, showing some indistinct shapes.

FREE!

PRIVATE PARTY NOT FOR BUSINESS USE

Classified Ad

for **Southern Dutchess News** Subscribers only

*Your personal use only *Restrictions apply *One word per line

Name: _____ ID#: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

SORRY, WE CANNOT TAKE THE SUBSCRIBERS' FREE LINE ADS OVER THE PHONE
 Ads must be received by 12 noon the Friday prior to publication. We cannot acknowledge receipt of ads

Free ads run "space available." We do not guarantee placement.

"Free line ad" as the subject) your subscription name, address, phone

Ads should be limited to 20 words including a contact phone number (must be included in ad).

If using this coupon it's recommended that it's delivered in person or mailed.

Faxes are accepted, but not recommended. **Our fax number is: (845) 297-6810**

Ads run for 2 weeks. If after 2 weeks you wish your ad to run again, it must be resubmitted.

We reserve the right to modify or reject any ads.

Southern Dutchess News, 84 East Main St., Wappingers Falls, NY 12590

Mail Coupon To:

Southern Dutchess News

84 East Main Street, Wappingers Falls, NY 12590

Coupon must accompany payment

Great Newburgh to Beacon Hudson River Swim held



The Annual Great Newburgh to Beacon Hudson River Swim took place on July 26. This one-mile open water swim started in Beacon. It is an annual fundraiser for the River Pool at Beacon. Swimmers are watched by kayakers as they swim their way across the river. There were also performances during the event.

-Courtesy photos by Alan Thomas

Lit Lit set for Aug. 1

The next Lit Lit will be Friday, Aug. 1 from 7-9 p.m. If one would like to read, please arrive at the Howland Cultural Center, 477 Main St., in Beacon by 6:30 to sign up.

Everyone gets a maximum of five minutes to read their own writing of any genre. Suggested donation to benefit the Howland Cultural Center is \$5. Drinks and snacks are also available by donation.

For more information, go to <https://donnaminkowitz.com/lit-lit>.

this week's puzzle solutions

8	4	3	9	5	6	1	2	7
5	9	1	4	2	7	6	8	3
7	2	6	1	8	3	4	9	5
4	6	2	7	3	5	8	1	9
1	5	7	8	9	4	3	6	2
3	8	9	6	1	2	7	5	4
6	1	5	3	7	9	2	4	8
9	7	8	2	4	1	5	3	6
2	3	4	5	6	8	9	7	1

This week's answer

SUDOKU

SHIP	SNL	SE	ELSE
KOTO	OWED	PE	EL
NAIL	ROBE	OL	ST
HANTS	EL	IS	IB
CRASH	ELIT	SK	IL
EATERY	LET	UR	SA
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RUINATE	NO	ER	NO
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5	4	5	3	4	1
3	1	2	1	2	3
2	4	5	3	4	5
1	2	1	2	3	1

Sugurn solution

Legal Notices

REQUEST FOR BIDS NOTICE
The Purchasing Agent, County of Dutchess, Poughkeepsie, New York, hereby invites the submission of sealed bids for: Bid#RFB-DCP-31-25
Crushed Road Salt and Treated Road Salt
Bids will be received until 2:00 p.m. on the 11th day of August 2025 at the Dutchess County Division of Central Services, 378 Violet Avenue, Suite 2, Poughkeepsie, New York 12601. Specifications and bid forms may be obtained by visiting our website <http://www.dutchessny.gov>, selecting "Government", then selecting "Bidding and RFP Opportunities". For additional information, call 845-486-3613.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NOTICE
The Purchasing Agent, County of Dutchess,

Legal Notices

Poughkeepsie, New York, hereby invites the submission of proposals for: Bid#RFP-DCP-29-25
Coached Visitation Services
Proposals must be submitted electronically through the Empire State Purchasing Group's Regional Bid Notification System (BidNetDirect) Portal on or before 2:00 p.m., August 21, 2025. Specifications, proposal forms and submittal instructions may be obtained by visiting our website <http://www.dutchessny.gov>, selecting "Government", then selecting "Bidding and RFP Opportunities". For additional information, call 845-486-3613.

LEGAL NOTICE OF ESTOPPEL
The following entitled bond resolution, a summary of which is published herewith, has

Legal Notices

been adopted on July 14, 2025, and the validity of the obligations authorized by such resolution may be hereafter contested only if such obligations were authorized for an object or purpose for which the County of Dutchess, New York, is not authorized to expend money, or if the provisions of law which should have been complied with as of the date of publication of this notice were not substantially complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty days after the date of publication of this notice, or such obligations were authorized in violation of the provisions of the Constitution.
A complete copy of the resolution summarized herewith is available for public inspection during regular business hours at the Office of the Clerk of the

Legal Notices

Legislature for a period of twenty days from the date of publication of this Notice.
Dated: Poughkeepsie, New York, July 24, 2025.
Clerk, County Legislature
RESOLUTION NO. 2025081
BOND RESOLUTION DATED JULY 14, 2025.
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$1,525,100 SERIAL BONDS OF THE COUNTY OF DUTCHESS, NEW YORK, TO PAY THE COST OF HVAC EQUIPMENT AND SYSTEM REPLACEMENTS IN COUNTY BUILDINGS, IN AND FOR SAID COUNTY.
Class of objects or purposes: HVAC equipment and system replacement in County buildings
Period of probable usefulness:

Legal Notices

10 years
Maximum estimated cost: \$1,525,100
Maximum amount of bonds to be issued: \$1,525,100 bonds
SEQRA status: SEQRA compliance to be completed during the final design stage and prior to the financing thereof
LEGAL NOTICE OF ESTOPPEL
The following entitled bond resolution, a summary of which is published herewith, has been adopted on July 14, 2025, and the validity of the obligations authorized by such resolution may be hereafter contested only if such obligations were authorized for an object or purpose for which the County of Dutchess, New York, is not authorized to expend money, or if the provisions of law which should have been com-

Legal Notices

plied with as of the date of publication of this notice were not substantially complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty days after the date of publication of this notice, or such obligations were authorized in violation of the provisions of the Constitution.
A complete copy of the resolution summarized herewith is each available for public inspection during regular business hours at the Office of the Clerk of the Legislature for a period of twenty days from the date of publication of this Notice.
Dated: Poughkeepsie, New York, July 24, 2025.
Clerk, County Legislature
RESOLUTION NO. 2025082
BOND RESOLUTION DATED JULY 14, 2025.

Legal Notices

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$767,600 SERIAL BONDS OF THE COUNTY OF DUTCHESS, NEW YORK TO PAY A PART OF THE COUNTY'S SHARE OF THE COST OF THE PURCHASE OF BUSES FOR PUBLIC TRANSIT, IN AND FOR SAID COUNTY.
Class of objects or purposes: Public Transit Buses
Period of probable usefulness: 10 years
Maximum estimated cost: \$8,300,022
Amount of bonds to be issued: \$ 7 6 7 , 6 0 0 bonds
Other monies: \$829,242 State grants-in-aid; \$6,633,938 Federal grants-in aid; \$69,242 capital reserve fund monies
SEQRA status: Type II Action

Diversions

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© StatePoint Media

Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

Suguru

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3

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The heavy lines indicate areas, called cages, from one to five squares in size. Fill each cage with unique digits, counting up from 1. So for example a 2-square cage contains the numbers 1 and 2; and a 5-square cage contains the numbers from 1 to 5. Adjacent (touching) squares, even ones that touch diagonally, may never contain the same number.

THEME: AT THE CIRCUS

ACROSS

1. *Jumbo The Elephant or Sirius in space

5. "But I heard him exclaim ' ____ he drove out of sight"

8. Young salmon

12. Blood component

13. What Lizzie Borden did

14. Leather razor sharpener

15. "The Famous Five" author ____ Blyton

16. Back of the neck

17. Letter-shaped girder

18. *Feats-of-strength circus performer

20. Indian restaurant bread

21. In need of a muffler

22. Away's partner

23. Backward

26. Same as ruin

30. Greek R

31. Net sales minus cost of goods sold

34. Europe/Asia mountain divide

35. Approximately, as in date

37. Overnight lodging

38. Inflicted a blow

39. Celestial bear

40. Goose egg

42. ____-AFTRA

43. Frying pan

45. Eating establishment

47. Type of English crs.

48. Traffic accident

50. Wading bird

52. *Sara Gruen's novel "Water for ____"

56. *Lion tamer's tool or counter seat

57. Justice's garb

58. Hit it on the head

59. Run off, as in couple

60. Was in the hole

61. Japanese zither

62. Something ____

63. Movie "Saturday Night" subject matter, acr.

64. FedEx, verb

DOWN

1. Tom Jones' " ____ a Lady"

2. *Big Top

3. Gulf V.I.P.

4. Remodeled

5. Tests

6. Settle a debt

7. Biblical place of bliss

8. *"The Greatest Showman" protagonist

9. Equals length times width

10. Multicolored horse

11. Dashboard acronym

13. Type of heart pain

14. Moses' mountain

19. Hollywood legend ____ Shearer

22. *Like circus audience's experience, hopefully

23. Bow-like structure

24. Dodge

25. Trunks

26. *Three-____ circus

27. What phoenix did

28. Batu Khan's people

29. JD Vance's "Hillbilly ____"

32. Civil disorder

33. African grazer

36. *Sound of circus

38. Money under mattress, e.g.

40. *Aerialist's bouncy safety device

41. Piled

44. Twisted cotton thread

46. Give it generously

48. *Funny one

49. James Dean's famous role

50. It will

51. *Unwelcome reception, pl.

52. Cupid, to the Greeks

53. Sodium hydroxide

54. ____caca, South American lake

55. Trough stuff

56. Witness

CROSSWORD

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The solutions to the Sudoko, Crossword puzzle and Suguru can be found on page 14.

love to cook

by vicki frank day

Summer sipping



Refreshing cocktails using fresh herbs

If you know me, you know I love a good cocktail. One of my joys this time of year is to sip something cool on the porch with friends, soaking up the balmy breeze and late-day sun. It refreshes my soul to savor such moments, and as summer winds down they're even more precious. Another of my summer pleasures is stepping outside my back door to pick fresh herbs from my garden to use for cooking; and so I thought, why not combine the two and see what happens?!

Now, I have done this before to some extent. Mint is the obvious herb of choice and I've made the most of it for years in juleps, mojitos and iced tea; but I was feeling inspired to expand my repertoire and wanted to share my results, so here we go!

The best place to start, I think, is to explore the flavor profiles of different herbs in much the same way as you would for cooking. Knowing what goes together or enhances other flavors is key and helps when experimenting, which is fun for me. Sometimes you can be pleasantly surprised, so don't be afraid to play with different combinations.

Here's a guide to get you started.

A quick note: When using in any cocktail, you want to muddle the herbs to release their fragrant, flavorful oils. You can do this in a shaker or right in the glass. Use a muddler or a wooden spoon to gently press and twist the leaves before adding other ingredients. (Don't overdo it: bruising the leaves too much can give you bitter results). And, of course, garnish your creation with fresh sprigs.

Essential Recipe - Simple Syrup

This is a key ingredient in many a cocktail, for iced tea and coffee, so it's a good one to keep on hand all summer long. Simply combine equal parts sugar and water in a saucepan and cook over medium heat until sugar dissolves. You can enhance it by adding herbs, berries, fresh citrus juice, honey, ginger, even slices of jalapeno. If you do so, let the mixture sit off the heat for at least an hour to absorb the flavor. Cool completely and transfer to a container. It will keep 2-4 weeks in the fridge.

Basil
Who doesn't love basil? As a member of the mint family, it's perfect for cocktails with its slightly sweet, spicy and licorice notes. It pairs well with tomatoes for sure, but also with citrus, peach-

es and berries. You can experiment with different varieties, like Thai or Lemon, too.

Basil Cooler

An easy and versatile drink to start with since you can use your liquor of choice. Vodka, gin and tequila work especially well. Muddle your basil in a glass and add fresh lime juice, simple syrup and an ounce or two of your spirit of choice. Stir with ice and garnish with fresh basil. I like topping it off with some club soda to make it extra refreshing.

Basil Paloma

Muddle basil in a high ball glass. Add 2 ounces tequila (preferably Blanco), 1/2 ounce fresh lime juice, 3 ounces fresh red grapefruit juice and 1/2 ounce simple syrup. Stir, fill glass with ice and top with club soda. Garnish with Basil and a lime wedge.

Berry Bubbles

Muddle basil with fresh strawberries in a large glass. Add simple syrup and strain into a measuring cup (amounts are up to you and how many servings you want). Divide between champagne flutes and top with bubbly of your choice. Garnish with a fresh berry and sprig of basil.

Cilantro

This bright, spicy herb isn't for everyone - it seems you either love it or hate it. There's no denying its affinity for more savory cocktails, but a splash of simple syrup can do wonders to bring out its sweeter side.

Cool as a Cucumber

Muddle a good handful of cilantro with slices of cucumber in a shaker. Add some fresh lime juice, 2 ounces of vodka or tequila, a little simple syrup and lots of ice. Shake well and strain into high ball glasses filled with ice. Garnish with cilantro and a cucumber slice.

Mucho Macho Margarita

For this you'll want to add jalapeno slices and about 1/2 cup of cilantro to your simple syrup (refer to syrup recipe). Combine 1/2 ounce of syrup, juice from one lime, 2 ounces tequila (I like an ounce each of Blanco and Reposado and a few slices of jalapeno in an ice-filled



A basil paloma.

-Photo by Vicki Frank Day

shaker. Shake well and strain into a glass with ice. Garnish with cilantro and a slice of lime.

One of my greatest pleasures this time of year is to sit outside with something cool to sip, and some nibbles to accompany it. When it's beastly hot that isn't so appealing, but otherwise my backyard affords a lovely breeze most of the time; and when I can make the most of it it's the perfect and decadent way to spend a few hours. Doing so with friends is even better, and serving up some herbaceous cocktails ups the fun factor. Added bonus: fresh herbs are good for you and loaded with antioxidants, so you can skip feeling bad about imbibing. You

likely won't overdo it, since hand-crafted cocktails are meant to be sipped and savored; and with summer evenings dwindling, that seems like the perfect thing to do. Cheers!

Vicki Frank Day's background includes over two decades in various aspects of the food service industry. In addition, she has over 27 years' experience in marketing, graphic design, copy writing, food styling and research. She believes cooking should be a fun adventure, that food should be an experience and that every day can be a special occasion. Email her at vickiloves2cook@gmail.com.

West Point Band's Benny Havens presents 'Dancing Under the Stars' in Beacon

The West Point Band's Benny Havens Band will present "Dancing Under the Stars" on Friday, August 1 at 7 p.m. at Pete and Toshi Seeger Riverfront Park, 2 Red Flynn Dr., in Beacon. Get ready to hit the dance floor with the West Point Band's Benny Havens Band as they take their iconic dance party to Beacon! Slip

on your dancing shoes, find a partner, and groove to your favorite dance hits all night long. Whether you're with the whole family or that special someone, join them for a magical evening of dancing under the stars. This concert is free and open to all; for more information visit www.westpointband.com.

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